

LEEC NEWSLETTER

A COMPILATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEWS FROM LOUISIANA AND BEYOND



LEEC NEWS

SUPPORT LOUISIANA TEACHERS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MATERIALS

The greater environmental education community is showing its support for Louisiana teachers with an Environmental Education Care Package effort and you can help! We are looking for lesson plans, activities, maps, posters, loaded thumb drives, educational films, software, etc.

Teachers whose homes or schools flooded in August 2016 have potentially lost years' worth of teaching materials, lesson plans and activity supplies. The North American Association for Environmental Education has created a place for you or your organization to pledge support and tell us what kinds of materials you can donate to help get South Louisiana's environmental education classes going again.

Follow this link to pledge your support <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LouisianaEE>.

If you are a teacher whose home or school flooded in August 2016 and you would like to request an Environmental Education Care Package, please visit <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/care-package>.

DID YOU KNOW that the 24 of 70 school districts in Louisiana were forced to close because of the August 2016 storms? Almost a third of Louisiana students, about 265,000 kids, were prevented from attending school.

Source: [The Times-Picayune](#)

CARE PACKAGE CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to the following organizations for pledging to support Louisiana's environmental education teachers.

- 4-H Youth Wetlands Program
- Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
- Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)
- Environmental Protection Agency
- LA Dept. of Environmental Quality
- LA Dept. of Natural Resources
- LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries - Education
- LA Environmental Education Commission
- National Parks Service
- North American Association of Environmental Education

SAVE THE DATE

The 2017 Environmental Education State Symposium will be held **February 3-4, 2017** at the Baton Rouge Marriott. This year's theme will be "Protecting Louisiana's Endangered Species."

Formal, non-formal and informal educators are invited to join in as participants, presenters and exhibitors. Contact Venise Ortego at vortego@wlf.la.gov.

If you would like to host a 1-day short course on Friday, Feb. 3, 2017, please fill out an online proposal form. The deadline for proposals is Sept. 16, 2016.

<http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/2017-short-course-proposal-form>.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

HELP RESTORE CAMERON DUNES

The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) and CITGO have announced a dune restoration event on the Cameron coast on Saturday, September 24th. The volunteer event commemorates the 11th anniversary of Hurricane Rita as part of the CITGO Caring for our Coast Program, during National Estuaries Week. Volunteers will be planting a 2-mile stretch of Cameron shoreline with 28,000 marsh grass plugs. The goal of this project is to restore vital dune habitat which will reduce the impact from hurricanes and storm surge, enhance wildlife habitat, and protect inland marshes and communities along the Cameron shoreline.



Image courtesy of CRCL

[Find out more and register to volunteer here.](#)

SPECIAL INFORMATION

FREE CRISIS COUNSELING FOR LOUISIANA CHILDREN AND YOUTH SEEKING NORMALCY AFTER FLOOD EVENT

Returning to school in late August brings a sense of routine to most children across the country. But in Louisiana there are many young people whose lives are far from normal. They are still living the aftermath of storms and widespread floods that drove tens of thousands from their homes and left many living with relatives, or in hotels or shelters.

A free crisis counseling program, funded by FEMA and administered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), is open to any adult or child in designated parishes. To learn more, call the DHH-Office of Behavioral Health Louisiana Spirit Crisis Line at 866-310-7977.

What's the best way to respond to your child during or after a disaster? Click [here](https://www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping) (<https://www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping>) for some pointers, including a guide to common child reactions to disaster by age.

NHFD CELEBRATIONS HELD AROUND THE STATE, BATON ROUGE EVENT CANCELED

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) will host National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHFD) events on Sept. 24 in Haughton, Woodworth and West Monroe. This year's event in Baton Rouge, however, has been canceled.

Visit <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/nhfd2016> for more information.



BUY A PLATE TO EDUCATE

Support the LEEC by purchasing an Environmental Education specialty plate at www.expresslane.org

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LouisianaEnvironmentalEducationCommission